

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region
14440 Civic Drive, Suite 200, Victorville, CA 93292 (760) 241-6583

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, December 1, 2010, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Hinkley Elementary School

37600 Hinkley Road, Hinkley

PG&E Hinkley Chromium Cleanup Activities Update and Scoping Meeting

The Lahontan Regional Water Board staff will host a meeting to update the public and to solicit input regarding PG&E's ongoing and future cleanup actions at the Hinkley site. The Water Board ordered PG&E to stop the chromium plume from expanding and to clean up hexavalent chromium (chrome 6) from the groundwater. In the 1950s and 60s, at PG&E's compressor station, PG&E discharged chromium contaminated water, which entered groundwater in the area.

Water Board staff will present information and maps regarding the current boundaries of the chromium plume in groundwater. Water Board staff will also describe PG&E's September 2010 Feasibility Study on achieving final site cleanup. The Study details five possible cleanup options and gives a recommended option for final site cleanup. The plume map and the Feasibility Study will be available at the meeting and through the Water Board's website. The Water Board is developing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the final site cleanup proposed by PG&E and is asking the public to provide comments on the Feasibility Study and provide input on potential environmental effects from the proposed actions. A formal Notice of Preparation describing the project and potential effects will be sent out separately ahead of the December 1 meeting in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. At the meeting, Water Board staff will accept oral and written comments. Written comments on the Feasibility Study and in response to the Notice of Preparation of an EIR may also be submitted to the Water Board during the month of December.

In addition, the meeting will provide information on nitrate pollution of groundwater in the Hinkley area. Nitrate pollution from the Desert View Dairy and possibly other sources has made water undrinkable in some domestic wells. The meeting will provide a status update on implementation of the Water Board's Dairy Strategy.

The meeting will be informal and will include a series of poster presentations. Water Board staff will be available to provide information and answer questions. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting to learn about current projects and upcoming cleanup actions, and provide comments involving environmental concerns.

A Spanish language interpreter will be available at the meeting.

Water Board orders and letters, information on PG&E's Feasibility Study, and PG&E chromium plume maps can be viewed on our website at:

www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan.

If you have questions about the meeting, call Lisa Dernbach at (530) 542-5424 or email at LDernbach@waterboards.ca.gov.